

COMMENT • BOWLING • RACING • ATHLETICS • BOXING

Montrip and Sifter In a Special Event

Will Probably Get Together on Monday.
Twilight May Be Added—Odom Had
Trip for Nothing.

Montrip and Sifter, the two horses who fought out the finish of the Chevy Chase so gallantly last Saturday, will probably meet in a special race before the Benning meeting ends.

There was much talk at the time of a renewal of the Chevy Chase. The owners and trainers of Sifter were especially anxious that his horse should have another try at Montrip, but the Washington Jockey Club officials did not encourage the idea. Now, however, they have agreed to program a special race for the purpose of bringing Montrip and Sifter together.

It will not be a renewal of the Chevy Chase, strictly speaking. The owners of the two horses will arrange the details between them and the Washington Jockey Club will add plate to the value of \$500 for the winner. Mr. Havaland would have nothing to do with the details of the race beyond suggesting that the distance and weight be the same as in last Saturday's race.

The plans for the race will be definitely settled today and the date of its running announced. This will probably be next Monday. This being an off day, the race, because of the strong local interest, would prove a good drawing card. It was said yesterday that the conditions of the race would probably permit professionals to ride instead of amateurs. Twilight, likely, will be a starter also.

George Odom made his first appearance of the season yesterday, and because of a mix-up in telegrams had his journey from New York for nothing. On Monday Will Shields telegraphed him to come over to ride Buttons in the closing race of yesterday, and Oaklawn in a race for which Shields expected to enter his prize two-year-old today. Odom's reply was delayed and did not reach Shields until midnight Monday night.

In the meantime Shields had become uneasy, and engaged Shaw to ride Buttons. Then, to make matters worse, the race for which Oaklawn was entered did not fill, and a new race was substituted. Odom was pretty well disgusted at the result of his initial riding endeavor of the season, and concluded not to fill, and a new race was substituted. Odom was pretty well disgusted at the result of his initial riding endeavor of the season, and concluded not to fill, and a new race was substituted.

Mickey Miles, who was beaten little more than two lengths for first money in the maiden race yesterday, when riding a 150-to-1 shot, carried the American invasion into altogether a new field during the past winter. At the close of the meeting there last fall Mickey had an offer to go to Trinidad to ride. Mickey was ready, but he was told that snow and ice were strangers to the place, and that decided him.

He comes back all puffed with pride at his good judgment in selecting such a place to spend the severest winter known hereabouts in years, and tells quite an interesting story of racing in the West Indies for it. "We had only about seven or eight days' racing all told, but it was all very serious matter, and we were very anxious to get away from the big race meeting was at Fort au Spain. This is an English colony, you know, and wherever the Englishmen gather in any numbers the first thing they think of is a race meeting."

"Ella Snyder, a mare well known about the New York tracks, was the principal American race horse there, and she made good in a handsome way, though she did not win the big event of the meeting. A young Englishman there had sent to England for a horse to win this event, and he was successful, but Ella Snyder licked everything else they had."

used to get the New York papers and read of the awful weather as I lay around in scanty attire, enjoying the tropical weather, and I was thankful of the opportunity to get away from the cold and snow. I made some money there, too, had a good time, and hope to go back again."

Col. W. O. Seely tells a good story of Hot Springs. It will be remembered that a new starter was tried out at the Oaklawn meeting. His name was McKnight, and he made a sad mess of starting horses simply because of his lack of experience. He was a common thing to leave from one to four horses at the post, and his work occasioned much comment and much complaint among the bettors.

The Oaklawn track is built for winter racing. The betting ring is inclosed with great swinging doors that open easily for the crowd to rush out to look at the racing. A bell in the ring is rung as a signal that the start has been made.

One day when this signal was given the crowd rushed as usual for points of vantage, but one tall handicapper had the foot of the crowd, got through the swinging doors first, and selected the best available spot on the steps from which to view the race.

He hurriedly focused his glasses on the neighborhood of the five-furlong pole, assuming that the horses would have about reached this point. It was a six-furlong race. But no horses were in sight and he looked at the four-furlong pole. Still no horses in sight and turning to those near him, the tall handicapper exclaimed in disgust:

"Great Scot, boys, he's left the whole field at the post this time!"

The explanation came later. The wires had been crossed in some way and the betting ring bell had been rung before the horses had left the paddock.

It is rather a wholesome sight these days to see Jockey Grover Cleveland attending so strictly to business. Fuller is making his own engagements and carries his program book with him to note down all engagements. His services are in demand. He rode two winners yesterday again. Shaw also rode two.

Tommy Burns has much to be thankful for today. While conversing with a friend in the paddock yesterday the Belmont filly Tipton did not like the cut of the jockey's clothes and lashed out at him with her heels. Luckily, Burns had been just out of range, but by an inch or two only, as his hat was kicked off his head. It was a close call.

Six favorites won yesterday and the high stool brigade was hard hit by the public.

SPORTING COMMENT.

BASEBALL.
Wonder if Al Seibach is drawing \$4,500 this season?

So many frills, furbelows, and advertising schemes are being adopted in baseball we may next see the teams parade the principal streets each morning behind a brass band and a poster.

It will soon be time for the baseball writers to begin using the "saliva sphere" as a synonym for spit ball.

This is the time of the year when it is not worth while being mayor of a town. Think of the commensurate addresses to make and the number of baseball seasons to open!

Because Ned Hanlon had his salary cut from \$12,500 to a paltry \$8,000 is no reason why an ambitious young player should not aspire to fill his shoes.

If Malachi Kittredge can make as many hits with his bat as he can with his stock of yarns, he will make Lejolo's batting average look like "Sarah Bernhardt" Gibson's.

MISCELLANEOUS.
Is the press agent's profession degenerating? It would seem so, if the comparatively small number of stories that have come out about actresses putting mashers and others to flight by means of flu-jitsu in older and better days there would have been at least one story a day to this effect.

Old Subscriber asks what is the best way to beat the races. I would suggest that he become a trainer and handle somebody's horses on a salary.

If any further proof were needed that Jack Munroe is the real thing in the dub line, all needed was furnished when he could not beat poor old Doc Payne in Atlanta.

Let us be thankful that there was no scandal evolved as a result of the excitement over the international checker tournament.

If Billy Garth continues his successes at Betting there will be so much easy money in Virginia that paying off a little matter like those repudiated bonds will be a mere detail.

Murray Miller, a Chicago wine agent, is said to be the owner of Ram's Horn, winner of the Montgomery Handicap, and considered by many experts the best three-year-old in the country today. Sam Hildreth offered \$20,000 for him. He was bought cheap as a yearling.

A man down in Florida was pulled out of his boat by a fish and drowned. Such brutal and dangerous sports must be stopped. Let an anti-fishing society be formed at once.

TOM ROLAND.

BATTING LAMPS ARE NOW LIT

Nationals Swat Ball With
Great Vigor.

TWIRLERS STRIKE GAIT

Shoots and Benders Galore for Stick
Practice—Townsend Has New
Spit Ball.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, March 28.—Perfect baseball weather prevails this morning, and the players were prompt in reaching the ball grounds and in getting down to work.

The twirlers have at last struck their gait, and swift and artistic curves are now in order. Patten, Jacobson, and Townsend especially, put in good looks this morning. By the way, Townsend claims to have a new "spit" ball, with a decided upshoot. Trainer Quick claims that it is a beauty, and says Jack is going to play havoc with it when he gets it under good control.

Batting Lamps Lit.
There is no doubt that the men have regained their batting eyes. This morning it appeared as if every one of them had brought along with him his choicest assortment of wallowing optics, for practically all of them connected with the ball hard and safe. Manager Stahl is fast perfecting team work. The infield is beginning to work with precision, and the Washington public may expect much from the quartet composed of Captain Stahl, Nill, Cassidy, and Hill.

Hill, at third, is covering all sorts of territory, despite his bandaged knee, while his throwing to the initial bag is almost faultless. The outfielders were given a variety of files this morning, as Manager Stahl wanted to see just how much territory they could cover. The afternoon practice will be taken up with a game between the regulars and Yankees.

**BASEBALL LEAGUE
ELECTS OFFICERS**
The organization of the new Departmental Baseball League was perfected last night at a meeting at the Treasury at which a full roster of officers was elected and plans formed for the coming season.

Chief Clerk T. G. Alvord, of the Congressional Library, was chosen president; E. M. Dawson, chief clerk Interior Department, vice president; A. G. Rice, of the Agricultural Department, secretary, and M. O. Chance, chief clerk of the Postoffice, treasurer. An executive committee, composed of Messrs. Alvord, Rice, and Chance, was chosen to have charge of all important questions that come up in regard to the games.

The constitution adopted last night is practically the same as the one in effect in the Sunday School League.

Loser Started Well.
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He smashed Hart's kidneys, which caused the Louisville man to gasp. Johnson landed left and right hooks to the jaw in the round closed. Hart put two hard rights to the heart in the round. Hart was aggressive in the third, but was unable to land any effective blows. Johnson kept away and apparently did not extend himself.

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The eighth and ninth rounds were lively and Johnson's admirers thought that the negro would surely do the trick. His boxing superiority and strength were evident. He did some quick two-hand punching, and Hart bled freely. Hart was still aggressive and cornered in the tenth round. There were some good exchanges in the eleventh round, and Hart still eager and game.

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The negro sloped visibly in the next three rounds and seemed perturbed at the way Hart was assimilating punishment. The Bourbon kept wading in and in the fifteenth and sixteenth rounds Johnson showed better form in the severe swings to the head and body.

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Aggressiveness Won.
Referee Greggains gave the decision to Hart because of his gameness and aggressiveness. The spectators were wholly of the opinion that Johnson was suffering from a streak of bright yellow. Whenever he did fight he made Hart look like an amateur.

The Louisville man's aggressiveness seemed to rattle Johnson, and his courage would ooze. There was not a knockdown in the whole fight, and with the exception of the ninth round there was little of pugilistic moment.

Rounds All Alike.
The last ten rounds resembled each other. Johnson pegged away with straight lefts and rights, which cut Hart's face, while the Kentucky colonel wallowed away with right swings to the body and head. Referee Greggains, speaking of the mill, said:

"Hart won because he was aggressive throughout. He wanted to fight continually. Johnson, in my opinion, dogged it. Johnson was a 2 to 1 favorite when the fight began. After the first few rounds Johnson let Hart do most of the leading. In the ninth round, when, with lefts and rights, the negro punished Hart badly."

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